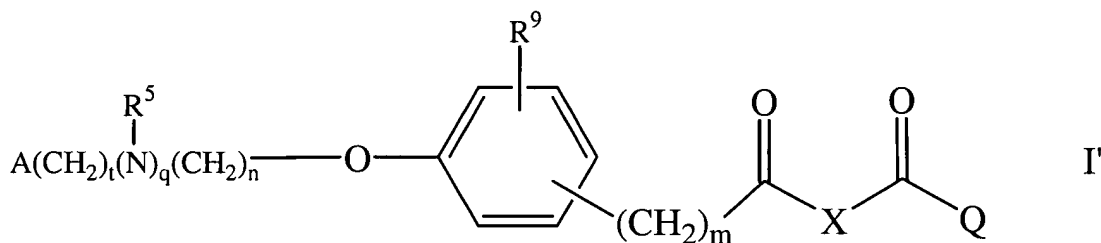


**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1-13 as shown in the listing of claims that follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A ~~biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a~~  
compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0 or 1;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R<sup>5</sup> is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen; and

X is -CH<sub>2</sub>CR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>- wherein one of R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> is hydrogen or methyl and the other is methyl, Q is OR<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7

carbon atoms; or X is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$  and Q is  $\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{11}$  wherein one of  $\text{R}^{10}$  and  $\text{R}^{11}$  is hydrogen, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms or hydroxy, and the other is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; or

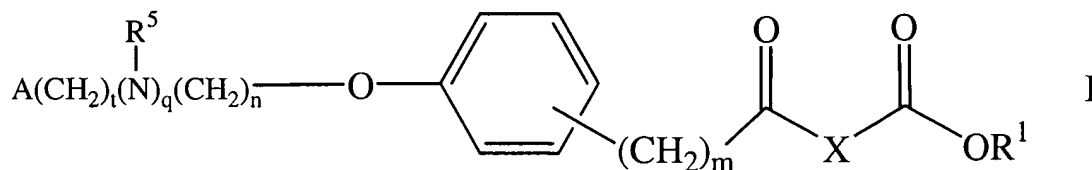
$\text{R}^9$  is halo, or alkoxy having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

X is  $-\text{CH}_2-$ , Q is  $-\text{OR}^1$  and  $\text{R}^1$  is ethyl; or X is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CR}^{12}\text{R}^{13}-$  or  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{NHAc})-$  wherein each of  $\text{R}^{12}$  and  $\text{R}^{13}$  is independently hydrogen or methyl, Q is  $\text{OR}^1$  and  $\text{R}^1$  is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms; or X is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$  and Q is  $\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{11}$  wherein one of  $\text{R}^{10}$  and  $\text{R}^{11}$  is hydrogen, alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms or hydroxy, and the other is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

A is cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl;

or when  $\text{R}^1$  is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A biologically active agent, wherein the agent is a~~  
 compound of the formula:



wherein

n is 1 or 2;

m is 0 or 1;

q is 0 or 1;

t is 0 or 1;

R<sup>5</sup> is alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

A is cycloalkyl having from 3 to 6 ring carbon atoms wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or two ring carbons are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl; and

X is -CH<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>1</sup> is ethyl; or X is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(NHAc)- and R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms;

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

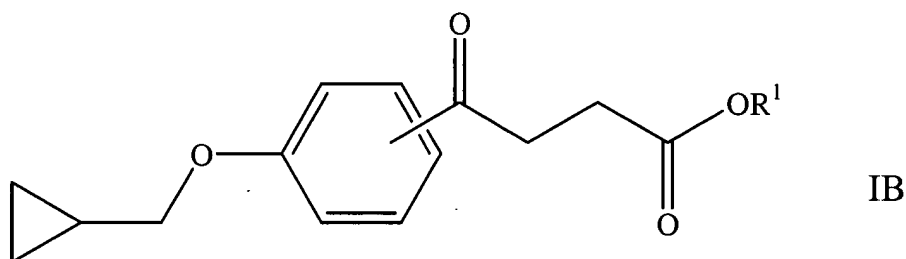
3. (Currently amended) The ~~agent~~ compound or salt of claim 2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or ethyl.

4. (Currently amended) The compound or salt ~~agent~~ of claim 2, wherein q is 0.

5. (Currently amended) The compound or salt ~~agent~~ of claim 2, wherein X is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-.

6. (Currently amended) The compound or salt ~~agent~~ of claim 2, wherein the cycloalkyl is unsubstituted or one or both ring carbons adjacent to the ring carbon covalently bound to the remainder of the compound of formula I are independently mono-substituted by methyl or ethyl.

7. (Currently amended) The compound or salt agent of claim 6, wherein A is unsubstituted cyclopropyl.
8. (Currently amended) The compound or salt agent of claim 2, wherein q is 1 and R<sup>5</sup> is methyl.
9. (Currently amended) The compound or salt agent of claim 2, wherein the compound is 4-(3-((Cyclobutyl)-methoxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid.
10. (Currently amended) The ~~biologically active agent~~ compound of claim 2, ~~wherein the agent is a compound of~~ represented by the formula:



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

or when R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.

11. (Currently amended) The compound or salt agent of claim 10, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or ethyl.
12. (Currently amended) The compound or salt agent of claim 11, wherein the compound is 4-(4-((cyclopropyl)-methoxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid.

13. (Currently amended) The compound or salt ~~agent~~ of claim 11, wherein the compound is 4-(3-((cyclopropyl)-methoxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid.